

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT

DATE DISTR. 16 November 1955

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DATE OF INFO.

DATE ACQUIRED

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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- a. The Ministry of the Interior is compiling statistics on the number of men who have received pre-military training since 1945. The census is to serve as a basis for tightening up and extending GST (Association for Sport and Technology) activities.
- b. The census is being drawn up systematically by the competent authorities in the VP "Kreis" offices, Party "Kreis" offices, the F.D.J. and the B.G.L. (Betriebs-Gruppen Leitungen).
- c. The returns have to be made under the following headings:
 - Area under investigation.
 - Total number of inhabitants.
 - Number of male inhabitants divided into age groups.
 - The date after 1945 when military training began.
 - Type of training.
 - Place of training.
 - Duration of training.

- a. A working commission of the Central Committee of the GST has been entrusted with the drawing up of a disciplinary order for the establishment and maintenance of rigid discipline. Each member of the GST will be required to give a written undertaking to abide by this disciplinary order. The head of the working commission is Hermannshof, head of Political and Cadre Training. Karl Schindewan, Secretary of the Central Committee of the SED, has been assigned to assist the commission.
- b. Richard Staimer, head of the G.S.T. and Dick, the "Ressort" head for Saxony, have proposed that the whole of the East German population, where practicable, should be compelled by law to undergo a unified system of pre-military training. The Central Committee of the GST has openly supported this proposal as being the best means of extending

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the activities of the GST and it is assumed by them that an order of this kind will be demanded by resolutions in factories, schools and the FDJ. The attitude of the Central Committee of the SED to this proposal is so far unknown.

3. Weapons training for officers of the GST and BKG

- a. The Chief of the VP has issued an order to all the VP Commanders in the "Bezirke" instructing them to send all their weapons training officers to a weapons course. Special officers attached to VP units in the "Bezirke", "Kreise" and towns are likewise to attend.
- b. On this course the students will be trained in the handling of heavy machine guns and grenades.
- c. The course, to be held at Schoenemark bei Gransee, was to begin on 25 September and was to last 12 weeks.
- d. The student body is to consist of 125 men drawn from the "Kreise" and "Bezirke" of Frankfurt/Oder, Cottbus, Koenigswusterhausen, Teltow and Berlin. The officers in charge of the course are Major Gauert and Senior Lieutenant Schwab of Potsdam.
- e. After the course has terminated, those who took part in it will be expected to give up voluntarily their Saturdays and Sundays to act as weapons training officers to the GST and BKG (Betriebskampfgruppen).

4. Priemerburg Training School

- a. Courses are now being held by the KVP at their training school at Priemerburg for future instructors and instruction-inspectors to the G.S.T.
- b. The subjects taught may be divided into the following three categories:

Principles of Communication
Anti-tank firing rules
Tactical Instruction principles

5. Principles of Communication

Lectures under this heading include:

Guiding principles for employing various kinds of communications.
Security in radio communications.
The quick transmission of messages.
Signal communications at the "H.Q." Command.
Establishment and maintenance of signal communications.
Signal communications at the forward base.
Efficiency and reliability of signal communications.
Advantages and disadvantages of main methods of communication,
i.e., Telephone, Radio communications, Teleprinter.
Radio communications during an enemy attack.
Operational principles during assembly, march, enemy break through, retreat.

6. Anti-Tank Firing Rules

- a. The subjects taught under these headings are:
 - laying and firing at fixed targets
 - laying and firing at single moving targets
 - laying and firing at groups of moving targets

- b. Drill for:

use of indicators
measuring distances
attacking groups of tanks (distance from which attack should be

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launched, etc.)
when attacks cannot be held
close combat
attacking individual tanks

c. Tank movement

d. Gun drill including:

sighting
drill to be employed for the destruction of a tank after a
hit has been scored

8. Tactical Instruction Principles

During this instruction period, special emphasis is laid on the duties and responsibilities of the "Gruppenfuehrer" when advancing under enemy fire. Lectures are given on:

Methods of advancing under fire
principles of fanning out
principles of cover
camouflage.

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